

NOTES ON THREE BUPRESTIDAE.

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Melanophila obtusa Horn, 1882, Trans. Am. Ent. Soc., 10, p. 106.

This little-known species was based upon a single specimen from Georgia, now conserved in the Philadelphia Academy of Sciences. Recently I acquired a specimen of this species. It agrees with the description of *M. obtusa* very well in all respects excepting that my specimen is slightly larger, 5.75 mm. as compared to the 5.5 mm. of the type. The data on this specimen is: "Bear Mtn., N. Y., VII, 5, 1925, F. M. Schott." This extends the known range of this species more than 750 miles Northeast from the type locality.

In Sloop's paper on *Melanophila*, 1937, Univ. Calif. Pub. Ent. 7, p. 12, a copy of Horn's original description is given wherein is contained a confusing misquotation as follows: "Length 0.22 inch, width 5.5 mm." Of course the word "width" is Sloop's and Horn was giving the length only, in two different systems of linear measure, not mentioning the width at all. The width of my specimen is 2.1 mm.

Buprestis catoxantha Gory

Examination by the writer of the type of *Buprestis elongata* Casey,¹ preserved in the U. S. Natl. Museum, has revealed that *B. elongata* Casey is in every way a typical specimen of *B. catoxantha* Gory, a well-known Mexican species. Thus the synonymy as given by Nicolay and Weiss² and Helfer,³ placing *B. elongata* as a synonym of *B. rufipes* Oliver, is incorrect. The type specimen of *B. elongata* is labeled "N. Y." Casey doubted the authenticity of this locality and wrote: "more probably from Colorado." Now it appears that he was guessing too far North even at that as there are, to my knowledge, no records of *B. catoxantha* from anywhere in the U. S.

Chrysobothris subopaca Schaeffer, 1904, N. Y. Ent. Soc. Jour., 12: 208.

The type of this species has been lost for many years. It is in my possession having turned up in the F. M. Schott collection of Buprestidae which I acquired. There are four labels: "Type ♂,"

¹ 1909, Proc. Wash. Acad. Sc., 11: 105-106.

² 1918, Journ. N. Y. Ent. Soc., 26: 99.

³ 1941, Ent. Am., 21, 3: 173.

"Tulare Co., Cal.," "*Chrysobothris subopaca* type Schffr.," and "*subopaca* Schffr." This spelling of the specific name verifies the observation of Mr. W. S. Fisher in his revision of *N. A. Chrysobothris*⁴ that Schaeffer's original spelling, "subapaca," was probably a typographical error.

A Breeding Focus of *Dermacentor variabilis* (Say), the American Dog Tick, in New Hampshire.—When I wrote my account of the ticks of the northeastern United States (1946, *Entomologica Americana*, XXV), I was unable to find a published record of the occurrence of *D. variabilis* in New Hampshire. I also failed to obtain specimens collected there, although I had heard it stated that "spotted ticks" had occasionally been taken from dogs by summer residents. Whether or not these might have been casual introductions from farther south, on the dogs themselves, it was, of course, impossible to trace. I have now, however, obtained conclusive evidence that there is a breeding focus of *D. variabilis* in at least one section of the state. While spending most of the summer of 1947 at Center Ossipee, my former colleague Dr. David Weinman kept a sharp lookout for ticks. During July he obtained several females and males of *Dermacentor variabilis* from dogs and from people. There cannot be the slightest doubt that they were picked up in the surrounding woods and had been produced by local larvae and nymphs. Several specimens were removed from Dr. Weinman's dog, which had been taken directly from Boston to Ossipee and could not have picked up any ticks in the woods before reaching New Hampshire. From this evidence *D. variabilis* appears to be slowly extending its breeding territory northward. It would be well worth investigating what particular ecological conditions favor its breeding in the Ossipee area. It might also be advisable to stamp out this breeding focus in its early stages, so that the tick will not spread to other favorable sites in the state. tain spotted fever in certain sections of Cape Cod and Long Island show that the problem of the spread and survival of this tick is not purely academic.—J. BEQUAERT, Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, The well-known relations between *D. variabilis* and Rocky Moun-Cambridge, Mass.

⁴ 1942, U. S. Dept. Agr. Misc. Pub. 470: 141.